

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application with claims 1-6 being independent.

Claims 1-18 and 25-30 have been are rejected as being unpatentable over Yamazaki '080 in view of Andra. In view of this rejection, independent claims 1-6 have been amended to recite forming first and second crystalline regions on the upper surface of an amorphous semiconductor film by moving a laser beam having a wavelength that falls in a range of 370 nm through 650 nm in a first direction and a direction parallel to the first direction such that the regions overlap along the first direction (claims 1, 2, 4 and 5) or in a short direction of the laser beam such that the regions overlap along the short direction (claims 3 and 6). Support for these amendments may be found, for example, in Figs. 4A-4C of the application.

Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because neither Yamazaki '080, Andra, nor any combination of the two describes or suggests forming overlapping first and second crystalline regions in an upper surface of an amorphous semiconductor film in the manner recited in the independent claims. For example, while Yamazaki '080 describes forming first and second crystalline regions, the regions are not formed in overlapping portions of the upper surface of an amorphous semiconductor film. Instead, as noted at col. 4, line 62 to col. 5, line 6, the regions are formed at different depths from the surface of a semiconductor layer. Andra, which was relied upon by the Examiner as showing the use of lasers having the wavelengths recited in the independent claims, does not remedy this failure of Yamazaki '080. For at least these reasons, applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1-6 and their dependent claims 7-18 and 25-30.

Claims 19-24 were rejected as being unpatentable over Yamazaki '080 in view of Andra and Yamazaki '730. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Yamazaki '730 doesn't remedy the failure of Yamazaki '080 and Andra to describe or suggest the subject matter of the independent claims.

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Enclosed is a \$110 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/23/04



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